

closing only one New Hampshire station (Harrisville) that had not been reported in some published work. And this stand was well enough known locally to be a topic of conversation at a party. — DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

CAMPANULAR PERSISTENCE. — While walking on the railroad in Randolph, N. H., near the former station of Appalachia, in the summer of 1920, I observed, on a gravelly embankment, one good-sized clump, about six inches in diameter and the same in height, of a many-stemmed *Campanula*, with small pale blue flowers on naked flexuous peduncles. Leaving most of the plant undisturbed, I placed a portion in the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club (*Pease 18093*), and by analysis and comparison with specimens in the Gray Herbarium identified the plant as *Campanula divaricata* Michx., which is now described in the eighth edition of Gray's *Manual* as growing "in dry woods and rocky slopes, w. Md., W. Va. and Ky., s. to. Ga. and Ala." In my *Vascular Flora of Coös County, N. H.* (1924), p. 345, I have reported the plant as rarely adventive and persistent in 1923.

Over the years from 1923 to the present I have watched the fate of this little pilgrim, and several years ago, when the railroad track was heavily reballasted with unpromising gravel, found its site deeply buried. For several years I considered it as gone beyond recovery, but then it rose again from the gravel, and my annual visits recommenced. Then came another calamity; some four or five years ago the track was again reballasted, this time with even more unpromising cinders, and I had again to mourn the loss of the *Campanula*. This summer (1960) it occurred to me to look again, and lo! there again it was at its accustomed place, rising through cinders as it had previously through gravel.

Forty years, then, at least — for I do not know how long before 1920 it was first established here — this delicate little plant has survived an austere diet and violent attacks upon its security. It shows no disposition to increase, but whether

this may be due to a lack of the insects needed to fertilize it or to other causes I know not.

Mr. Walter Deane reported to the Botanical Club (RHODORA 4:243-244; 10:203-204) on the persistence of *Cephalanthus occidentalis* L. for 43 years in a pig-sty at Shelburne, N. H.; equally or perhaps even more notable is the experience of this delicate little wild-flower, about eight feet from a heavily ballasted railroad track and at least five hundred miles from its natural home. — ARTHUR STANLEY PEASE, RANDOLPH, N. H.

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